

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02722 081614Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 PA-02 /020 W  
-----014938 081619Z /47

O R 081310Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6516

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2722

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: -  
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BY THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST  
17 OIL COMPANIES FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPLYING OIL TO RHODESIA TO  
THE ECONOMIC DETRIMENT OF ZAMBIA STARTED YESTERDAY IN THE CHAMBERS  
OF THE LUSAKA HIGH COURT, REPORTS THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA.

MEANWHILE, THE RULING UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY  
(UNIP) HAS WARNED THAT IT WILL DEAL "RUTHLESSLY" WITH PERSONS  
WHO HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT-IMPOSED CURFEW AND  
BLACK-OUT TO ENGAGE IN "RUMOR MONGERING."

MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF UNIP, FINES BULAWAYO SAID  
THE PARTY WILL NOT TOLERATE THE STOPPAGE OR DISRUPTION OF ON-  
GOING PROGRA PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE PARTY ELECTIONS NOW UNDERWAY  
ON THE EXCUSE OF THE CURFEW.

HIS WARNING, ACCORDING TO THE ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, WAS NECESSITATED  
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BY WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS "WILD STORIES" CIRCULATING, PARTICULARLY  
IN LUSAKA, ABOUT THE PRESENT CRISIS REGARDING THE WAR SITUATION  
ALONG THE ZAMBIA/RHODESIA BORDER.

COMMENTING ON THIS WARNING, THE MAIL SAYS "PEOPLE MUST NOT COME  
AND GRUMBLE IF STEPS ARE TAKEN TO SILENCE THEIR WILD AND IN MOST  
CASES IRRESPONSIBLE SPECULATIONS."

ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, SUCH PERSONS "MUST NOT COME AND GRUMBLE  
IF THEY ARE LATER TOLD THAT THEY HAD FORFEITED THEIR OWN FREEDOM  
THROUGH THEIR OWN IRRESPONSIBILITY."

IT IS THE VIEW OF THE MAIL THAT FREEDOM IS A TWO-WAY TRAFFIC  
WHERE ONE OF THE PARTIES MUST SHOW THAT IT DESERVES THAT FREEDOM  
AND EVEN WORK TO DESERVE IT." SAYS THE MAIL: "THE RUMOR-MONGERS  
HAVE BEEN AT WORK SPREADING SUCH UNDILUTED NONSENSE LIKE INCREDIBLY  
HIGH CASUALTY FIGURES ON OUR PART OF CLASHES WHICH DID NOT  
TAKE PLACE BETWEEN US AND THE ENEMY."

THE SAME RUMOR-MONGERS "AND AGENTS OF THE ENEMY WHO ARE KEEN TO  
SELL THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PACKAGE EVEN TO THE UNSUSPECTING HAVE  
TWISTED THE CAUSE OF THE CURFEW AND THE BLACK-OUT AS RISING FROM  
THE FACT OF INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN THE COUNTRY," THE MAIL EDITORIAL  
CLAIMS. ITEM USIS LUSAKA.  
BURNS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LITIGATION, PROHIBITED TRADE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** MEDIA REACTION LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BY THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST 17 OIL COMPANIES FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPLYING OIL TO RH  
**TAGS:** SOPN, ETRD, ENRG, ZA  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009